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REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the non-final Official Action mailed February 9, 2007. Reconsideration of the application in light of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claim Status:

Under the imposition of a previous Restriction Requirement, claims 1-14 and 20-58 have been withdrawn. To expedite the prosecution of this application, withdrawn claims 1-14 and 35-58 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant reserves the right to file any number of continuation or divisional applications to the withdrawn or cancelled claims or to any other subject matter described in the present application.

Withdrawn claims 20-34 remain in the application. Applicant will be entitled to the rejoinder of claims 20-34 upon the allowance of claim 15. M.P.E.P. § 821.04.

By the present paper, various claims have been amended, and new claims 62-71 have been added. Consequently, claims 15-19 and 59-71 are currently pending for further action.

Prior Art:

In the recent Office Action, claims 15-19 and 59-61 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent App. Pub. No. 2003/0007034 to Horvath et al. ("Horvath"). For at least the following reasons, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 15 now recites:

A dopant solution application apparatus, comprising:  
*a supply of a dopant solution comprising a dopant that controls a property of a substrate;*

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a frame; and  
a plurality of fluid ejection devices disposed on said frame wherein  
*said fluid ejection devices variably eject a said dopant solution onto a said  
substrate according to a desired profile of said property throughout said  
substrate.*

(Emphasis added).

Support for the amendments to claim 15 can be found in Applicant's originally filed specification at, for example, paragraphs 0006, 0018 and 0025. Applicant notes that the recited "dopant" is defined as a substance that "controls a property of a substrate."

In contrast, Horvath fails to teach or suggest any of this highlighted subject matter. Horvath teaches an "[i]nkjet printing system 10 [that] constitutes one embodiment of a fluid ejection system which includes a fluid ejection assembly, such as an inkjet printhead assembly 12, and a fluid assembly, such as an ink supply assembly 14." (Horvath, paragraph 0026).

Consequently, Horvath does not teach or suggest the claimed "supply of a dopant solution comprising a dopant *that controls a property of a substrate.*" (Emphasis added). Horvath does not mention or even suggest the claimed dopant that controls a property of a substrate.

Horvath also does not teach or suggest the claimed plurality of fluid ejection devices that "variably eject said dopant solution onto a said substrate *according to a desired profile of said property throughout said substrate.*" (Emphasis added). Horvath does not teach or suggest the claimed profile of a property desired throughout a substrate or the claimed plurality of fluid ejection devices that eject dopant solution according to such a profile.

Thus, Horvath fails to teach or suggest much of the subject matter of claim 15. "A claim is anticipated [under 35 U.S.C. § 102] only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference."

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*Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 2 U.S.P.Q.2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987) (emphasis added). See M.P.E.P. § 2131. For at least these reasons, the rejection based on Horvath of claim 15 should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Additionally, various dependent claims of the application recite subject matter that is further patentable over the cited prior art. Specific, non-exclusive examples follow.

Claim 17 recites:

The dopant solution application apparatus of claim 15, further comprising a supply of a second dopant solution comprising a second dopant that controls a property of said substrate, wherein said fluid ejection devices comprise an array of fluid ejection devices that variably eject said dopant solution and said second dopant solution according to a desired profile of at least one property of said substrate throughout said substrate, wherein said at least one property is controlled by at least one of said dopants.

Support for the amendments to claim 17 can be found in Applicant's originally filed specification at, for example, paragraphs 0024 and 0033 and Fig. 7.

In contrast, Horvath fails to teach or suggest the claimed second dopant solution that controls a property of the substrate and fluid ejection devices that eject the various dopants according to a desired profile of the controlled property or properties throughout the substrate. For at least these additional reasons, the rejection of claim 17 should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claim 61 similarly recites:

The dopant solution application apparatus of claim 59, wherein said plurality of fluid ejection devices also apply a second dopant to said substrate, wherein a concentration of said second dopant varies along a second axis of said substrate.

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As demonstrated above, Horvath fails to teach or suggest the claimed "plurality of fluid ejection devices [that] also apply a second dopant to said substrate, wherein a concentration of said second dopant varies along a second axis of said substrate." For at least these additional reasons, the rejection of claim 61 should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

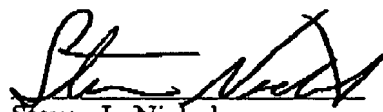
Conclusion:

The newly added claims are thought to be patentable over the prior art of record for at least the same reasons given above with respect to the original independent claims and for additional reasons. Therefore, examination and allowance of the newly added claims is respectfully requested.

For the foregoing reasons, the present application is thought to be clearly in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of the application in light of these remarks is courteously solicited. If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions which could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

DATE: May 8, 2007

  
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